



HYTHE CIRCULAR WALK

SHORTER ROUTE 3.1 MILES (5KM)

LONGER ROUTE 7.15 MILES (11.5KM)



[EXPLOREKENT.ORG](https://www.explorekent.org)

Start / Finish: Princes Parade Car Park (CT21 6AJ), W3W: ///mothering.removable.sized

Distance: Shorter route 3.1 miles (5km)
Longer route 7.15 miles (11.5km)

Explorer Map: OS Map of Dover, Folkestone & Hythe (Explorer 138)

Accessibility: The route is largely flat, step-free, and easy to navigate, with smooth coastal and canal paths suitable for wheelchairs, mobility scooters, and pushchairs. Frequent benches, gentle gradients, ramps at the seafront, and accessible rest points make it a comfortable and inclusive walk for most users.

Parking: Princes Parade Car Park is located at the start of the walk. Other parking is highlighted on the map.

Refreshments and Facilities: You will find a number of cafes, pubs and restaurants along the route. Toilets are marked up on the map.

Public Transport: Nearest train station is Sandling which is 2.4 miles (3.8km) away. Local bus stops are shown on the map.



ROUTE DESCRIPTION

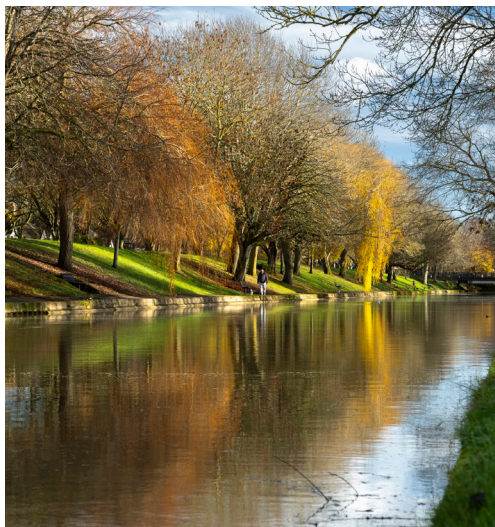
1 Your walk begins at the Princes Parade Car Park, which offers level access directly onto the coastal path. The route starts right beside the sea. And the flat, even-surfaced path runs parallel to the shingle beach. Turn east towards Folkestone.

This first stretch – around 1.9km – provides smooth terrain, no steep gradients and regular benches for resting while enjoying the uninterrupted coastal views.

As you continue, you'll notice the entrance to **2** the Royal Military Canal on your left. Stay on the coast path until you reach a break in the wall and a road crossing. Cross here, and if you are ready for a stop there is a café here with outdoor seating.

Carry on up Princes Parade, then turn left onto Seabrook Road. After about 120 metres, of pavement walking, turn left onto a public path leading directly to the Royal Military Canal. The northern side of the canal is 3 metres wide and allows better access for walkers and disabled users. There are rustic oak benches placed in prime locations to allow users to rest and enjoy the views and wildlife.

Stretching an impressive 45km from Hythe to Cliff End in East Sussex, the canal was built between 1804 and 1809 as a defence against a feared Napoleonic invasion. Today, it's cherished for its peaceful, wildlife-rich banks.



Keep an eye out for dragonflies, marsh frogs, kingfishers, and other rare species that thrive here in summer. Benches, picnic spots, and interpretive panels line the waterway, making it a beautiful place to slow down and explore.

Just nearby runs the Romney, Hythe & Dymchurch Railway, famously the world's smallest public railway.

Follow the canal path for 2km until you reach Twiss Road. Here you can choose to turn down Twiss Road to loop back to where you began – or continue for an optional longer route.

If you opt to continue, cross the road and walk slightly downhill to join the lower canal path. Along this section, look out for the striking decorative mileposts, part of the National Cycle Network, each uniquely designed and adding artistic interest to the route.

Soon you'll pass Hythe's cricket ground and then **3** Oaklands Park – a major green space, home to a children's play area, outdoor green-gym equipment, and the Princess Diana Memorial Sensory Garden. It's also where you'll find Hythe's distinctive bandstand, which comes alive with summer music performances.

Continuing onward, you'll reach Stade Street. Cross into Portland Road, then take a right-hand turn to rejoin the canal once more. As you follow the path you'll see Hythe Green on your left – an open, tree-lined space often used for community events.

Just before the pay-and-display car park, you'll find a path cutting straight across the green. Follow this level path, then cross the road and continue along Cinque Ports



Avenue, curving with the road as it bends. From here, join St Leonards Road and make your way back toward the seafront.

4 At the seafront you'll find a ramp leading you back onto the coastal path. As you continue past the Waterfront restaurant the promenade becomes wider and more spacious. There are plenty of benches to stop here and rest and public toilets nearby. Continue along the coast path until you return to the car park and the end of your walk.

This walk has been tested by Wild With Wheels.



Wild With Wheels CIC advocate for equal access to green and blue spaces to improve physical health and mental wellbeing through connecting to nature and Kent's diverse landscape.

Introducing the Hythe Circular route:

"Follow the Historic Military Canal, see waterfowl, native trees and far reaching views across the channel to Dungeness."

Also available is the Folkestone Circular and Whitstable to Herne Bay linear walks.

